Mr. Martin, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to prevent frauds and abuses in the collection of public taxes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The following message was prepared, and sent to the senate by Mr. F. Gaunt and Mr.

BY THE HOUSE of DELEGATES, DECEMBER 7, 1780.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

ON confidering the governor and councils letter of yesterday, and the petition of the trustees of the poor of Frederick county, &c. we are of opinion, that they be referred to a committee of the two houses, and have appointed Mr. Johnson, Mr. Potts, Mr. F. Gaunt, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Martin, to join such members as you may appoint for that purpose.

F. GREEN, clk. By order, A letter from colonel Uriah Forrett, of the 4th instant, enclosing an account of George H. Leigh, for board and necessaries furnished Isaac Warner, a deputy commissary in the service of the United States, was laid before the house and read, and referred to the committee of claims, to confider and report thereon.

Mr. Wright, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to explain and to enforce the acts therein mentioned; which was read the first time and or-

dered to lie on the table.

William Hindman, Efq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 7, 1780.

GENTLEMEN, THIS house agree to the proposal in your message by Messieurs Gaunt and Martin, and have appointed Matthew Tilghman, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Thomas Stone, and Upton Sheredine, Esquires, as a committee to join the gentlemen named by you for that purpose. J. MACCUBBIN, clk. By order,

Which was read.

Mr. Kent, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report: By the COMMITTEE appointed to confider and report upon the petition of fundry inhabitants of Washington county.

YOUR committee, in obedience to the order of the honourable house, have taken the said petition into their confideration, and are of opinion, that the application thereby made is reasonable, and ought to be complied with; and your committee are of opinion, that leave should be given to bring in a bill for the purpose of disarming the nonjurors in that county. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house. G. RANKEN, clk.

By order,

Which was read.

Mr. Plowden, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following re-

THE committee appointed to consider and report upon the petitions of Robert Armstrong and Bartholomew Smith, of St. Mary's county, beg leave to report, that it appears to them, that the facts stated in the said petitions are true, and that the petitioners ought to be relieved from the payment of the fifteen per cent. on their property levied by an act of assembly, entitled, An act to procure recruits to complete the battalions of this state in the service of the United States, and to raise an additional regiment if necessary.

Your committee beg leave to report, that it is their opinion, that the law now in force for the relief of the inhabitants of this state, who have suffered by the enemy, is inadequate to their

relief in the present case.

Your committee therefore beg leave to report it is their opinion, that a law should pass to empower the lieutenants of the several counties in this state, on satisfactory evidence being produced of the depredations of the enemy, to grant such relief to the sufferers as have been heretofore granted by the commissioners of the tax for the respective counties, and that no person or perfons shall be relieved by the lieutenants of the several counties, but such as may have taken and subscribed the oath or affirmation of fidelity and support to this state, as directed and prescribed by the act for the better fecurity of government.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

J. KNAPP, clk.

Which was read.

ORDERED, That Mr. Johnson and Mr. Wright be added to the committee appointed to prepare instructions to our delegates in congress.

Mr. Plowden has leave of absence sor eight days. Mr. Hammond has leave of absence until Tuesday next.

The house adjourns till half after 3 o'clock.

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